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THE MORNING NEWS

FREE COPY Your Source for local news in English Caya G.F. Betico Croes 111 T. 588-9517 F. 5889518.

Government extends additional support to citizens on welfare



ORANJESTAD --For the upcoming school year 2011-2012, the government is providing financial assistance to parents on welfare who have a school age child or children. This financial assistance is specifically to help with outfitting children for school with the necessary clothing, such as shoes, uniforms, school items, etc. The assistance is applicable for children going to kindergarten, primary or to regular day school. The only condition is that the child (ren) must be living with the parent and the parent must be receiving welfare.

Families on welfare will receive an additional Afls.120 for each school age child up to a maximum of Afls.500 per family. This one-time assistance will be paid out together with the regular welfare check and paid in the month of September. Like in previous years the Department of Social Affairs will help with the payment of school fees, or at least a portion of this. This

payment will be made directly to the school or to the school board. The maximum amount payable is Afls.120 per child, and is a one-time assistance.

Parents who have adopted children will have to fill out a form from the school where the child is registered as of August 16. On that form, designed by the Department of Social Affairs, the parent is required to fill in all the necessary information as accurately as possible and then sign it. A letter explaining the entire process will be issued to each client on the next pay-day for welfare recipients.

In 2009, about 550 children received this type of assistance. In 2010 that number increased to 725 and as for this year the government has budgeted for 850 children. The number of 850 children is equal to about 700 families who will qualify for this financial assistance.

The government is convinced that this assistance is much needed for those families on welfare. The govern-

ment is of the opinion that the financial situation of families should not interfere or hinder children from getting an education. For this reason the government stands ready to ensure that our children can continue to go to school to become worthy citizens to prepare to help with the future development of our country.

Welfare recipients can make their petitions at three different areas across the island...three community Offices: as of August 15 clients can go to Noord at the former De Schakel School at Tanki Flip 53. This is for clients from Paradera, Noord, Seroe Patishi, and Pos Abao.

For those in San Nicolaas, soon they will be able to go the former IMSAN building. But for now, those in the Pos Chiquito, Savaneta and San Nicolaas districts will have to go to the Lagoenweg 11 Office in Oranjestad. At each of these offices clients can make petitions for welfare assistance as well as for other assistance and social guidance.

WEB must continue to invest to reduce production costs



BALASHI -- In a recent communiqué from WEB, Aruba's Water and energy plant, they report having chosen back in 2005 to implement the 2025 ENERGY ARUBA strategic plan with respect to the increase of fuel oil. Their objective was to "Use Less Fuel With Less Energy." In 2005 the company began investing in increasing efficiency and reducing the dependency on fuel oil.

There were four primary objectives:

*An electricity plant using more efficient motors

*The RECIP Phase 1 (2006), RECIP Phase 2 and a Water production plant more efficient: SWRO Phase 1 (2008)

*Alternative Energy windmill Park at Vader Piet (2009)

*RECIP Phase 3 (2011) and Water Plant SWRO Phase 2 (2012)

The above investments resulted in being extremely beneficial to Aruba. It resulted in a sizeable increase in efficiency of 21% since 2005.

They succeeded in reducing the company's consumption of fuel oil by 1000 barrels a day. They have gone from the consumption of

6000 barrels daily to 5000 barrels per day. By continuing to invest, by 2013 they will produce more water and electricity while reducing the amount of fuel to approximately 3.500 barrels per day. This they have and can accomplish through a very strict financial policy. Their strict financial policy is what has gained WEB the respect of financial institutions, local and international banks.

WEB has consistently remained financially sound to be sure they have the respect of banks which has made obtaining financing so much easier.

Since the start of the year WEB has been experiencing the increase of the price of fuel oil, which has put a great deal of strain on their financial condition. This, according to WEB, requires them to raise the tariffs in order to maintain a sound financial situation to be able to meet their obligations. WEB has thus far absorbed the increase of the fuel oil, but they believe that they can not continue this way any longer.

The consequence of not raising the tariffs to cover the real costs will put WEB in dire financial straits.

Continued on page 3

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US money ended up in Taliban hands: report

AFGHANISTAN (AFP) - government funds earmarked ostensibly to promote business in Afghanistan have landed in Taliban hands under a \$2.16 billion transportation contract, The Washington Post has reported.

Citing the results of a year-long military-led investigation, the newspaper said US and Afghan efforts to address the problem have been slow, and all eight of the trucking firms involved remain on US payroll.

Moreover, the Pentagon extended the contract for six months last March, the report said.

The investigation found "documented, credible evidence ... of involvement in a criminal enterprise or support for the enemy" by four of the eight prime contractors, the paper noted.

According to The Post, in-

vestigators followed a \$7.4 million payment to one of the eight companies, which in turn paid a subcontractor, which hired other subcontractors to supply trucks.

The trucking subcontractors then made deposits into an Afghan National Police commander's account, already swollen with payments from other subcontractors, in exchange for guarantees of safe passage for the convoys, the report said.

Intelligence officials then traced \$3.3 million, withdrawn in 27 transactions from the commander's account, that

was transferred to insurgents in the form of weapons, explosives and cash, the paper said.

"This goes beyond our comprehension," The Post quoted Representative John Tierney as saying.

Tierney, a Democrat, was chairman of a House oversight subcommittee that charged that the military was, in effect, supporting a vast protection racket that paid insurgents and corrupt middlemen to ensure safe passage of the truck convoys that move US military supplies across Afghanistan, the paper said.

Private funeral for Winehouse to be held today



LONDON (AFP) - The funeral of pop diva Amy Winehouse, found dead at her London home on Saturday, will take place today and will be limited to family and close friends, a spokesman for her family said Monday. Winehouse's body was released to her family on Monday after a post-mortem failed to establish a formal cause of death and, in accordance with Jewish tradition, the 27-year-old's remains must be laid to rest as soon as possible. Parents Mitch and Janis Winehouse formally identified the British soul singer's remains Monday before going to see the shrine of flowers (seen here), messages, candles, beer cans and vodka bottles outside her home in Camden Square, north London. The post-mortem was conducted at St Pancras Mortuary, with the formal inquest opened and adjourned to October 26 in a two-minute hearing at St Pancras Coroner's Court. Police said the toxicology results were not expected for two to four weeks.

Hackers hit back with attack on Italian police

ROME (AFP) - Hacker groups said Monday they had accessed the website of Italy's cyber police and published classified information online in revenge for arrests of hackers in Europe and the United States.

The communications police unit admitted it had been hacked but did not confirm or deny that any information had been stolen, while lawmakers condemned an "unprecedented" attack that had breached Italy's security.

The attack dubbed Operation Italy "revealed some of the most important and most secret reports of the cyber police on illegal and immoral practices," hacker groups LulzSec and Anonymous said in a statement on a blog.

The leaked reports "will show abuses committed in Europe by the CNAIPIC (National Centre against Cyber Crime and for the Protection of Critical Infrastructure)," they said on the site <http://anonops-ita.blogspot.com>.

The information published

by the hackers so far consists of eight megabytes of documents on a variety of Italian government interactions with ministries and business groups in Australia, Belarus, Egypt, Russia and Ukraine.

Hackers said the documents represented only one percent of the total cache.

Instead of maintaining a low profile after the arrest of 16 people in the United States and five in Europe in an inquiry led by the FBI against Anonymous, hackers have said that they would widen their struggle.

A month ago LulzSec announced an end to its hacking campaign after an arrest in Britain.

The group first became known for an attack on Sony and Nintendo video games followed by the CIA, the FBI and Rupert Murdoch's media empire News Corp.

Hackers claiming membership of the Anonymous collective earlier this year launched cyber attacks on a variety of Italian government and business sites.

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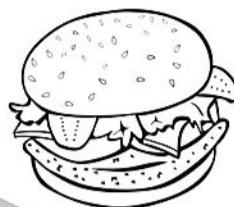
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Government making progress to improve public finance



2011 budget with 75 million Aruban florins, which is equal to 1.5% of our GDP.

Government's receipts totaled little more than 1 billion Aruban florins, while expenses were almost 1.3 billion Aruban florins. Despite many negative factors and situations inherited by the new government in 2009, the government succeeded in curtailing the negative tendencies. The National Social Dialogue and an economic research plan helped to put buying power back into the hands of the people and helped us to recover economically.

The economic plan entails sizeable investment projects in infrastructure, urban and energy alternatives.

Based on this economic plan the government is pleased that Parliament passed the Green Corridor law. This law will make a significant difference especially to those living east the bridge (San Nicolaas). The law will ensure that citizens of San Nicolaas will also benefit from a sustainable economic growth. The Green Corridor will eliminate the long traffic lines coming from San Nicolaas everyday. It will also facilitate our tourists who would be able to get to San Nicolaas with a lot less hassle.

ORANJESTAD -- In November 2009 the government borrowed 125 million Aruban florins to cover expenses left by the previous administration. According to Minister of Finance, Mike De Meza, the 2010 island budget had a deficit of 138 million Aruban florins. Added to this was the 210 million Aruban florins accorded to Valero bringing the real deficit to almost 350 million Aruban florins. De Meza explained that certain changes and strategic decisions enabled the government to achieve a manageable financial situation for Aruba. The government succeeded in reducing the deficit in the

WEB must continue to invest to reduce production costs

Continued from page 1

WEB runs the risk of losing necessary financing to complete the RECIP-3 project, SWRO phase 2 projects and financing for the gas project as well as for the windmill park extension project.

At the same time WEB is also very cognizant of the effect that a raise in its tariffs would mean for the community, but the reality is that there is no viable alternative at this moment. And, WEB declared that they can not wait much longer. WEB appeals to all consumers to manage their use of water and electricity as conscientiously as possible.



Tropical disturbance in Caribbean has little chance of developing further



-- A westward-moving tropical wave is producing disorganized showers and a few thunderstorms over the Caribbean waters to the south of eastern and central Cuba and over Jamaica.

Although the shower activity has increased somewhat during the day, atmospheric conditions are not expected to be conducive for significant development.

The system has a low chance — near 0 percent — of becoming a tropical cyclone in the next 48 hours. Elsewhere, no tropical cyclone formation is expected.

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InselAir resumes new route to Caracas

ORANJESTAD -- As of Monday July 25th InselAir has resumed operations between Hato International airport, Curacao and Aeropuerto International de Maiquetia, Caracas.

The airline was imposed to stop operating the route between Curacao and Caracas by Caracas airport authority.

InselAir, which celebrated a successful inaugural flight Monday July 18th, has done everything in its power to accommodate passengers on alternative flights.

"We worked with other airlines to make sure our passengers were accommodated", Mr. E. Heerenveen Chief General & International Affairs stated, "we are very content this was done successfully and are happy to announce we resumes the route Curacao – Caracas on July 25th. We would like to apologize to our customers for the inconvenience this has caused them."

The route will resume as previously announced, providing flights between Curacao and Caracas each weekday.

InselAir schedule

CUR - CCS:

Depart – Arrive
8.00 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.

- Flights start to operate on Mondays, Tuesdays, Wednesdays and Thursdays effective July 25th, 2011-

CUR - CCS:

Depart – Arrive
10.00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.

- Flights start to operate on Fridays effective July 29th , 2011-

CCS-CUR:

Depart – Arrive
9.15 p.m. – 10.30 p.m.

CCS-CUR:

Depart – Arrive
11.15 a.m. – 12.30 p.m.

Curaçao, Kingston, Haiti, St. Maarten, Charlotte USA, Miami USA, San Juan, St. Domingo and Surinam.

InselAir has 15 destinations, 46 flights per day and all fares are always stated as a roundtrip. The airline focuses on customer experience, safety and on-time performance. InselAir also plans to expand its in-flight experience by adding a comfort class, with extra services, that will enhance the travel experience for its passengers.

About InselAir

In South America, InselAir operates on destinations Caracas, Valencia and Las Piedras in Venezuela and Medellin, Colombia. Other InselAir destinations are Aruba, Bonaire,

Norway pays silent tribute to twin attack victims



OSLO, Norway -- People are seen gathered around a makeshift memorial outside the Domkirken church in Oslo yesterday. A minute of silence was observed across Norway at noon, an hour before the confessed perpetrator was due in court for his attack on government buildings and the massacre on the youth camp of the Norwegian Labour Party where at least 93 were killed in Friday's attacks in Norway.

AFP PHOTO

Ling and Sons IGA Kidsfest 2011 means means fun, cyber games, music and clowns



Put Sunday, August 7 in your diary because this day is going to be absolutely great. A Kidsfest is organized on the parking lot of Ling and Sons IGA and children of all ages are treated to fun, entertainment, cyber games, clowns and music by Basic One.

The afternoon starts at 1 pm and will go on until 6. Popular emcee Ruben Garcia will be present; he is godfather of the Clown Doctors of Aruba and in this capacity he will be cheering them on as they hand out balloons and ask for donations. So please bring a little money for this worthwhile foundation.

The main attraction this year is SETAR's mega gaming event, where the kids will be able to compete against each other on the Xbox and try out the new Kinect games. Also

present will be Lithium racing with their remote control cars and ARCC with their amazing remote control planes, skateboarding and more. For Bieber fans there is a Justin Bieber look-alike contest, so get ready to sing 'Baby baby baby ohh-hhh' and try and win.

Aside from all the amazing attractions there will be free drinks, snacks and fun activities provided by local companies. Sponsors of the Kidsfest 2011 are Frasa, Compra, Martijn Trading, Romar Trading, Tropical Bottling, Victoria Bottling, Brandsimpex, Manrique Capriles, Pico Bello and El Louvre Witec.

The Kidsfest at Ling and Sons IGA is free of charge. It will be a cyber crazy day filled with loads of fun, entertainment, games and music for children of any age.

Bon Bini Festival is tonight



ORANJESTAD -- The weekly Bon Bini Festival takes place tonight at the Fort Zoutman in Wilhelminastraat. Come mingle with the locals and enjoy a taste of Aruban culture.

This week the festival will feature the traditional Aruba caha di orgel by Crystal, folkloric music by Tipico Los Amigos, dance performance by Youth in Action, trio performance by The Heart Breakers, poem declaimed by Angelle Stamper, soloist Quincy Hasham and steel pan band The New Generation.

During the festival there will be local food, sweets and traditional local arts and crafts on sale.

Arubus has regular buses from all hotels areas to Oranjestad Central Terminal, which is only a short walk from Fort Zoutman. Round trip bus fare is \$2.30. The festival is from 6:30 to 8:30 pm. Entrance fee is \$3, =

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EU issues alert over cholera outbreaks in Caribbean

BRUSSELS, Belgium - European Union (EU) health officials have issued a warning to travellers about the risk of contracting cholera in the Dominican Republic, a magnet for tourists, and Haiti.

The European Center for Disease Prevention and Control (ECDC) said in a report that cholera is becoming endemic in the Dominican Republic. The country shares the island of Hispaniola with Haiti, which has been battling a large cholera epidemic since October 2010.

Cholera first spread from Haiti to the Dominican Republic last November, and the latter had had 5,367 suspected cases with 46 deaths by mid-June, the ECDC reported. It said 1,727 cases were confirmed.

PARIS, France (AFP) - Investigators said they will unveil new findings on Friday revealing the "exact circumstances" of the deadly crash of an Air France jet in the Atlantic in 2009.

The French aviation authority BEA said yesterday it will make its third formal report from its investigation into how the plane crashed en route from Rio de Janeiro to Paris on June 1, 2009, killing all 228 people on board.

"This report will present the exact circumstances of the accident with an initial analysis and some new findings based on the data recovered from the flight recorders," it said in a statement.

It added that it would brief the media in Paris at 2:30 pm (1230 GMT) on Friday.

According to information from the recorders already released by the BEA, the pilots

saw conflicting speeds on their instruments as the plane stalled and fell into the sea.

An interim inquiry had pointed to an icing problem with the probes measuring air speed but there has still been no definitive conclusion as to the cause of the crash.

The new elements in Friday's report will "present the different chains of events that led to the accident" but will not formally establish the cause, a BEA spokeswoman told AFP.

"These first points of analysis will allow us to indicate the failures that led to the accident, but not their cause," she said. A further final report is due later.

According to several experts, the deactivation of the autopilot could have been caused by the icing up of the air speed probes, known as Pitots.

Since the accident, Air

France has replaced the Pitots on its Airbus fleet with a newer model.

Both companies are being investigated for alleged manslaughter in connection with the crash.

Pilot's unions and some of the victims' families have accused the airline of reacting too slowly to safety warnings but both Airbus and Air France insist they reacted properly.

"We are waiting for more information on the circumstances of the accident, how it took place and above all the technical state of the aircraft during the flight's last moments," said Robert Soulard of a victims' families association.

"What has been released by the BEA has been very fragmented and has not allowed us to fully understand the situation," he told AFP.

It took investigators nearly

two years to salvage the black-box flight recorders from the wreck on the ocean floor in May.

Rescue workers recovered 50 bodies in the days immediately after the crash and this year retrieved a further 104, which were returned to France last month. More than 70 could not be recovered.

DO NOT use your mobile while DRIVING

Sci-Tech**Hong Kong scientists 'show time travel is impossible'**

HONG KONG (AFP) - Hong Kong physicists say they have proved that a single photon obeys Einstein's theory that nothing can travel faster than the speed of light -- demonstrating that outside science fiction, time travel is impossible.

The Hong Kong University of Science and Technology research team led by Du Shengwang said they had proved that a single photon, or unit of light, "obeys the traffic law of the universe".

"Einstein claimed that the speed of light was the traffic law of the universe or in simple language, nothing can travel faster than light," the university said on its website.

"Professor Du's study demonstrates that a single photon, the fundamental quanta of light, also obeys the traffic law of the universe just like classical EM (electromagnetic) waves."

The possibility of time travel was raised 10 years ago

when scientists discovered superluminal -- or faster-than-light -- propagation of optical pulses in some specific medium, the team said.

It was later found to be a visual effect, but researchers thought it might still be possible for a single photon to exceed light speed.

Du, however, believed Einstein was right and determined to end the debate by measuring the ultimate speed of a single photon, which had not been done before.

"The study, which showed that single photons also obey the speed limit c, confirms Einstein's causality; that is, an effect cannot occur before its cause," the university said.

"By showing that single photons cannot travel faster than the speed of light, our results bring a closure to the debate on the true speed of information carried by a single photon," said Du, assistant professor of physics.

Physicists closing in on 'God particle'

GENEVA -- Experiments at the world's biggest atom smasher have yielded tantalizing hints that a long-sought sub-atomic particle truly exists, with final proof likely by late 2012, physicists said Monday.

"We know everything about the Higgs boson except whether it exists," said Rolf Heuer, director general of the European Organisation for Nuclear Research (CERN).

"We can settle this Shakespearean question -- to be or not to be -- by the end of next year," he told journalists at a web-cast press conference at CERN headquarters in Geneva.

CERN and Fermilab have both reduced the range of

mass within which the "God particle," as it is known, might be found to a fairly narrow, low-mass band.

"The search for the Higgs boson is entering its most exciting, final stage," Stefan S o l d n e r - R e m b o l d , spokesman for one of Fermilab's two key experiments, said last week in a statement.

Higgs or no Higgs, the stakes are huge either way, and could easily earn a Nobel Prize for the scientists who can take credit for the breakthrough.

The long-postulated particle, first proposed in 1964, is the missing cornerstone of an otherwise well-tested theory, called the Standard Model,

which explains how known sub-atomic elements in the universe interact.

Without the 'God particle', however, that whole edifice falls apart because the Standard Model fails to answer one fundamental question: why do most elementary particles have mass?

British theoretical physicist Peter Higgs proposed a mechanism that would "save" the theory -- if the particle named for him truly exists.

"If you find the Boson Higgs, the Standard Model is complete. If you don't find it, then the Model has a serious problem. Both outcomes are discoveries," Heuer said.



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US cryonics founder dies, has body frozen - Obit



Conservation Unit

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Robert Ettinger, founder of a movement that advocates storing bodies at ultra-low temperatures after death until new technology allows them to be revived, has died and

his body frozen at the institute he founded, his family said Monday.

Ettinger died on Saturday at his home in Clinton Township, Michigan and "has been frozen at the Institute," a statement sent to AFP by Ettinger's son David said.

The Cryonics Institute, which Ettinger founded in 1976 as a "non-profit organization that could freeze and store patients at death" has more than 900 members around the world and "106 patients in storage," the statement says.

Born in 1918, Ettinger went public with his theory of cryonics in 1964 with the publication of his work "The Prospect of Immortality."

In the book, he contends that "at very low temperatures it is possible, right now, to preserve dead people with essentially no deterioration, indefinitely.

"If civilization endures, medical science should eventually be able to repair almost any damage to the human body, including freezing damage and senile debility or other cause of death," he said in the book.

"No matter what kills us, whether old age or disease, and even if freezing techniques are still crude when we die, sooner or later our friends of the future should be equal to the task of reviving and curing us."

Ettinger's keen interest in the life-saving promise held by future medical technology was sparked, according to the statement, by the years he spent in hospitals after he was seriously wounded in combat in World War II.

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Health & Living

Aid reaches drought-ravaged Somalia

NAIROBI (AFP) -The International Red Cross said Sunday it had handed out 400 tonnes of food in drought-hit parts of rebel-held southern Somalia as the UN prepares to host emergency talks on the crisis in the region.

"The distribution took place in the Bardera district and passed without incident, with the knowledge of the authorities and the recipients," ICRC spokesman Yves Van

Loo told AFP in Nairobi. It is the first ICRC-led food drop direct to locals in Shebab-controlled zones since 2009, he said, adding that further food drops will take place in the coming days.

Gedo province lies next to southern Bakool and Lower Shabelle, the two areas the United Nations declared this week as the worst hit by famine.

UN officials say that over

the past few months, tens of thousands of people have already been killed by the worst drought in 60 years.

The ICRC said it had distributed 400 tonnes of food supplies, including oil, rice and beans, to about 4,000 families or about 24,000 people in Gedo province on week-end.

Experts say the effects of two failed rainy seasons in the region have been exacerbated by the rapid rise in the costs of fuel and food.

Bayer flags results of new blood drug in Japanese study

BERLIN (AFP) -German pharmaceutical group Bayer said on Monday that its anti-coagulant drug Xarelto, also known as Rivaroxaban, had proved itself effective in preventing strokes in a Japanese study.

A Bayer statement said that phase 3 tests of the treatment showed it was as effective as warfarin, a leading blood thin-

ner also used by people that could suffer strokes following surgery.

"Rivaroxaban demonstrated non-inferior safety and that there were numerically fewer intracranial hemorrhages versus warfarin," the statement said.

Bayer applied in April for Japanese approval to market the drug that it developed

jointly with Johnson & Johnson, which already sells Xarelto in the United States.

Bayer estimates the treatment's sales potential at more than two billion euros (\$2.9 billion) per year.

Xarelto is now sold in more than 110 countries and is often prescribed for patients that have had hip or knee replacements.

Chinese medicine could treat Parkinson's: HK study

BEIJING (AFP) - Chinese medicine may be effective in battling certain symptoms of Parkinson's disease, and lessening side effects from the drugs used to treat the condition, according to a new study.

Researchers at Hong Kong Baptist University said Gouteng, a traditional Chinese herb used to treat hypertension, helped patients better communicate and made them less prone to depression and sleeping difficulties.

"There is no cure for Parkinson's right now, but the study showed Chinese medicine can help treat the disease," a university spokesman told AFP.

Parkinson's is a progressive motor-system disorder which usually affects people over the age of 50, although it can strike earlier, often causing severe symptoms including body trembling, stiffness and loss of balance.

The condition is usually treated with a drug called levodopa, which the brain converts into dopamine to relieve

the symptoms, but it can also cause nausea and hallucinations.

The Baptist University study found that patients who took Gouteng together with levodopa experienced fewer side effects from the drug while showing a marked improvement in their communication skills.

Li Min, an associate professor who led the study, said the findings could also help boost the profile of Chinese medicine.

"They provide not only pharmacological proof of the efficacy of Gouteng in treating Parkinson's disease, but will also help promote the effectiveness and safety of Chinese medicine to the international medical arena," she said.

Li -- whose team has applied for a US patent -- told the South China Morning Post that she expects the herb would start being used to treat the disease after the second phase of the study in 2013.



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Strauss-Kahn maid comes out fighting



NEW YORK (AFP) - The New York maid whose sex assault accusation brought down powerful French politician Dominique Strauss-Kahn has burst from the shadows -- and the illiterate immigrant won't go back without a fight.

After 10 weeks in hiding, Nafissatou Diallo's decision to speak to Newsweek magazine, then hit the airwaves on ABC, yet again upturned the scandal that erupted May 14 after she went to clean Strauss-Kahn's luxury room in the Manhattan Sofitel.

The two interviews on Sunday and Monday pierced the mystery surrounding the complainant in one of the most sensational criminal cases to rock the world of globe-trotting

charges because they are worried about the maid's credibility, Diallo was adamant that she won't retreat.

"I want justice. I want him to go to jail. I want him to know you cannot use your power when you want to do something like this," she told ABC.

Until now whatever details that were known about Diallo came from lawyers, prosecutors, or leaks from investigators.

But while Strauss-Kahn -- who was head of the International Monetary Fund and a strong contender to be next French president at the time of the alleged crime -- was already a public figure, no one had heard a word from Diallo

VIPs in years.

Faceless and nameless until now, Diallo revealed herself as an animated 32-year-old from Guinea in West Africa with dark, straightened hair, large eyes and a harrowing story of being forced into oral sex and fearing for her life.

And at a moment when prosecutors are suggesting they might drop

herself.

In the ABC interview, she talks forcefully in heavily accented, but mostly fluent English about the sequence of events she says took place in the 28th floor suite at Sofitel.

She recounted the incident, saying Strauss-Kahn emerged naked from a shower to "grab my breasts" and despite her pleas, forced her head down to his penis.

When she found out the identity of her alleged attacker, she referred to her troubled past in Guinea to explain why she feared for the worst.

"They're going to kill me," she said. "I know if that was in my country, he's a powerful man like that, they're going to kill me before someone knows."

Strauss-Kahn's experienced legal team is characterizing the media blitz as an attempt to pressure prosecutors into going ahead with the criminal case, without which a potentially lucrative civil lawsuit might have trouble gaining traction.

But Diallo appears also to want to reclaim her public image after having been painted in tabloid newspapers as a gold digger, and even a prostitute.

In the lengthy Newsweek interview, she talked with pride about cleaning the 28th floor at Sofitel and the fear she had about losing her job.

The \$25 an hour post was described as a dream job that lifted her from the insecurity

and poverty of a single mother immigrant who had previously worked in a hair salon and a Bronx food store after escaping a hard life in Guinea in 2003.

"I loved the job. I liked the people. All different countries, American, African, and Chinese. But we were the same there," she said.

Allegedly while under attack by Strauss-Kahn, she pushed back but did not use all her strength: "I don't want to hurt him," she told Newsweek. "I don't want to lose my job."

Inconsistencies about her life in Guinea -- as well as about the precise chronology of events in the hotel -- have fed both into prosecutors' doubts and defense allegations that she is making up the sex assault.

The two interviews seemed aimed at straightening out some of those inconsistencies, but are unlikely to settle the issue.

She told Newsweek that in Conakry, the capital of Guinea, she was raped by two soldiers and made to clean up the scene. However she was fuzzy about the date, eventually saying it happened in 2001. Asked about her former husband, she said simply that he'd died of



Nafissatou Diallo

"an illness," as did an infant daughter, though whether at three or four months she wasn't sure.

Whether such inaccuracies point to a poorly educated immigrant with a turbulent life or evidence of a woman fabricating a sex assault accusation is under debate.

Prosecutors have already said she admitted lying in her application for asylum to the United States and also cheated on tax returns in order to qualify for housing benefits.

But the maid, who told Newsweek she was the daughter of an imam in rural Guinea, said she had no hidden agenda.

"We are poor, but we are good," she said.

Languages on Papua vanish without a whisper

JAYAPURA, Indonesian Papua (AFP) - Who will speak Iniai in 2050? Or Faiwol? Moskona? Wahgi? Probably no-one, as the languages of New Guinea -- the world's greatest linguistic reservoir -- are disappearing in a tide of indifference.

Yoseph Wally, an anthropologist at Cendrawasih University in Jayapura keeps his ears open when he visits villages to hear what language the locals are speaking.

"It's Indonesian more and more. Only the oldest people still speak in the local dialect," he said.

In some villages he visits, not a single person can understand a word of the traditional language.

"Certain languages disappeared very quickly, like Muris, which was spoken in an area near here until about 15 years ago," he said.

New Guinea is home to more than 1,000 languages -- around 800 in Papua New Guinea and 200 in Indonesian Papua -- but most have fewer than 1,000 speakers, often centered around a village or cluster of hamlets.

Some 80 percent of New Guinea's people live in rural areas and many tribes, especially in the isolated mountains, have little contact with one another, let alone with the outside world.

The most widely-spoken language is Enga, with around 200,000 speakers in the highlands of central PNG, followed by Melpa and Huli.

"Everytime someone dies, a little part of the language dies too because only the oldest people still use it," said Nico,



A Papuan tribesman

the curator of Cendrawasih University's museum.

"In towns but also eventually in the forest, Indonesian has become the main language for people under 40. Traditional languages are reserved for celebrations and festivals," said Habel M. Suwae, the regent of Jayapura district.

No longer spoken everyday

In PNG, under the influence of nearby Australia, English has spread, though it has found it hard to penetrate some tribes, particularly those in the isolated highlands.

The authorities are sometimes accused of inaction or even favouring the official language to better integrate the population, particularly in Indonesian Papua.

But according to Hari Untoro Dradjat, an adviser to the Indonesian ministry of culture, no matter what measures are taken to promote traditional languages in schools, "it is almost impossible to preserve a language if it is no longer spoken in everyday life."

Despite his pessimism

about the future, Wally the anthropologist believes art and culture can stop Papuan languages being forgotten.

Papuans love to sing and celebrate and they must do these things in their traditional languages, Wally says -- this way young people "will want to discover the language to understand the meaning of the songs."

Instead of saving languages on the way to extinction, some researchers want to preserve a record of them -- a difficult task when many are exclusively oral.

Oxford University has launched a race against the clock to record Emma, aged 85, Enos, 60, and Anna, also 60, who are the three last remaining Papuans who speak Dusner.

More than 200 languages have become extinct around the world over the last three generations and 2,500 others are under threat, according to a UNESCO list of endangered languages, out of a total of 6,000.

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Holy Land clerics launch interfaith Earth forum

JERUSALEM, Israel (AFP) - Christian, Jewish and Muslim leaders in the Holy Land joined forces Monday to launch a multi-faith environmental campaign, citing religious injunctions to protect the Earth across their three faiths.

Among their plans are the convening of an international conference of religious leaders in New York ahead of the 2012 UN General Assembly, a North America public relations campaign and training future clerics on the importance of environmental issues, one of the organisers said.

At the Jerusalem launch of the Interfaith Center for Sustainable Development, rabbi David Rosen noted that the obligation upon humans to care for their surroundings comes near the very beginning of the Bible.

"That is the original charge in the first chapters of Genesis, given to the first man and woman, not purely to develop, to till the land, but also to protect it... to conserve it," he said, to nods of agreement from a Roman Catholic bishop and the Palestinian deputy minister of religious affairs.

"The main religions should really study the ecological crisis together, because our destiny is common," bishop William Shomali said. "If Earth is polluted it is polluted for Muslims, Christian and Jews."



Laying out the center's plan of action, rabbi Yonatan Neril said that the campaign was not limited to monotheistic faiths.

"One project is to have a speaking tour of North America of Muslim, Christian, and Jewish religious teachers, as well as Hindu and Buddhist teachers, to raise awareness about environmental sustainability from a faith perspective," he said.

Another, he said, "is to convene in a little over a year from now an interfaith Earth forum in advance of the United Nations General Assembly in which world religious leaders will be invited to speak in New York on the subject of environmental sustainability."

The new center also endorsed a statement calling on "all people of faith to reduce their personal emissions of greenhouse gases and to urge their political leaders to adopt strong, binding, science-based targets for the reduction of greenhouse gases in order to avert the worst dangers of climate crisis."

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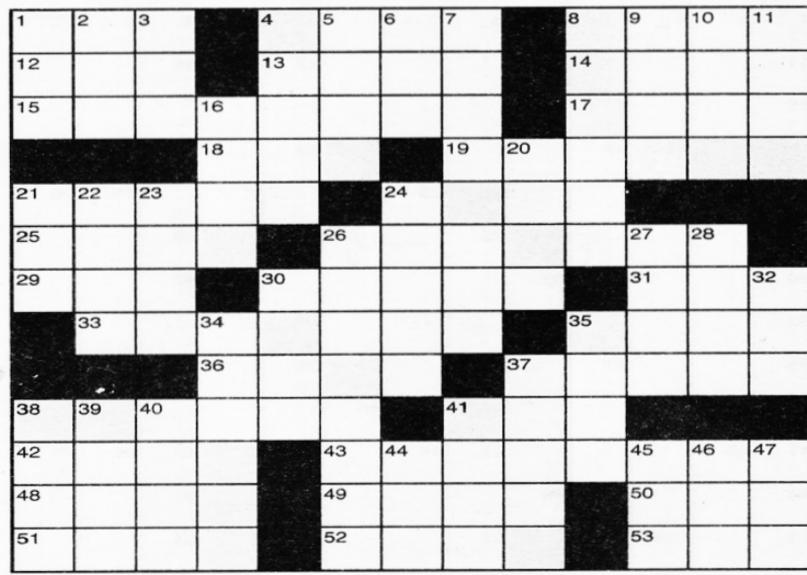
- Dickens's Tiny —
- One Monopoly corner
- Knight's lady
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- Hep
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- Business concern
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- Modern diagnostic test (abbr.)
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SOLUTION

7	2	4	3	9	5	8	6	1
6								
1	3	2	4	7	5	9	6	1
5	9	8	6	1	2	7	4	
9	7	6	5	8	4	3	1	2
2	4	3	7	1	6	9	8	5
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Finance

Oil prices dip as US debt talks stall



NEW YORK (AFP) - Oil prices slipped Monday as markets fretted over a US political impasse that is blocking the crucial lifting of the country's borrowing cap.

There was little sign of a consensus emerging as lawmakers raced to find a deficit reduction compromise and raise the debt ceiling in time to avoid a sovereign debt default on August 2. New York's main contract, West Texas Intermediate light sweet crude for September delivery, finished the day at \$99.20 a barrel, down 67 cents from its Friday closing level.

The benchmark futures contract, which briefly sur-

passed \$100 Thursday and Friday for the first time since early June, began the week sharply lower.

In London, Brent North Sea crude for September delivery fell 73 cents to settle at \$117.94 a barrel.

Oil prices pulled back as President Barack Obama and his Democrats remained at loggerheads with Republicans over raising the \$14.3 debt limit.

The Treasury warns the government will not be able to pay its obligations beginning on August 2, risking unprecedented downgrades on US debt ratings.

"The uncertainty over the US debt saga has created concerns for the oil market," said Victor Shum, an analyst with energy consultancy Purvin & Gertz.

"If it defaults, it impacts potentially economic growth in the US and so it's a sort of a domino impact," he told AFP.

Oil prices slipped Monday as markets fretted over a US political impasse that is blocking the crucial lifting of the country's borrowing cap.

The benchmark futures contract, which briefly sur-

Britain, India strike major trade deals

LONDON (AFP) - British and Indian businesses signed trade and investment deals worth more than \$1.6 billion in London on Monday, in the latest round of annual talks on boosting economic ties.

Britain's finance minister George Osborne hosted his Indian counterpart Pranab Mukherjee and business chiefs

in London, signing deals worth more than £1 billion (\$1.6 billion, 1.1 billion euros), Britain's Treasury said.

The gathering comes after India on Friday cleared a \$7.2-billion deal for Reliance Industries Ltd to sell a major stake in two dozen of its oil and gas blocks to Britain's BP.

"This is the single largest foreign investment in India. It's evidence of a strong two-way relationship," Chancellor of the Exchequer Osborne told a joint press conference in London.

"In total over 3,000 British firms are investing in or planning to invest in India."

London is determined to boost trade with Brazil, China and India to help drag Britain out of the financial crisis.

Mukherjee and Osborne demanded action from the European Union, the Group of 20 and the International Monetary Fund to help secure the

Debt cap deadlock sends US stocks lower

NEW YORK (AFP) - The Washington deadlock over raising the US debt ceiling sent stocks tumbling Monday, as the August 2 date to avoid a government debt default grew closer with no deal in sight.

The Dow Jones Industrial Average was down 88.36 points (0.70 percent) to 12,592.80 in closing trade.

The broader S&P 500 lost 7.59 points (0.56 percent) at 1,337.43, while the tech-heavy Nasdaq Composite shed 16.03 points (0.56 percent) to stand at 2,842.80.

Banks were losers as the debt limit cloud darkened over the markets: Bank of America lost 1.2 percent, Morgan Stanley gave up 2.5 percent, and JPMorgan Chase fell 1.2 percent.

A downgrade on the United States's top-rated sovereign debt, which ratings agencies have warned could happen amid the political impasse,

IMF urges swift lifting of US debt limit

WASHINGTON (AFP) - The International Monetary Fund on Monday warned the United States to lift its debt ceiling swiftly for the sake of the US and global economy.

But, with US politicians battling over a plan to slash the deficit, the IMF executive board called on authorities to only gradually reduce spending, to avert "a disruptive loss in fiscal credibility."

"The federal debt ceiling should be raised expeditiously to avoid a severe shock to the US economy and world financial markets," IMF economists said in a report on the US economy.

Executive directors called for the US to gradually unwind the extraordinary support provided the economy to deal with the 2008-2009 financial and economic crisis.

A downgrade on the United States's top-rated sovereign debt, which ratings agencies have warned could happen amid the political impasse,

would reflect deep troubles in the US financial system.

The IMF has told US authorities that "it's worth (fiscal) consolidation, even if it has some negative short-run effects, because the alternative... is so complex, so difficult that it's better not to go there," Rodrigo Valdez, a senior IMF adviser, said in a conference call with reporters.

Another IMF official, Gian-Maria Milesi-Ferretti, told reporters that other countries were concerned about the risk of a "loss of confidence in the US and hence an abrupt and large depreciation of the dollar accompanied by disruptions in international financial markets."

Democratic and Republican lawmakers were in negotiations Monday trying to break a prolonged deadlock over raising the government's \$14.3 trillion borrowing cap, linked to a long-term plan to reduce a swollen budget deficit.

YESTERDAY'S Crossword Answer



worldwide economic recovery.

Osborne said he hoped a free-trade agreement between the EU and India would be in place by the end of the year.

"We should not let negotiations flounder as we work towards an ambitious agreement which will unlock significant trade and investment opportunities as well as wider European agreement on trade," he said.

The two countries are to meet for a further round of trade talks in New Delhi next year.

Under the BP-Reliance agreement, announced in February, BP will buy a 30-percent stake in 23 of Reliance's oil and gas blocks, including India's largest gas field KG-D6, for \$7.2 billion.

The deal also envisages a performance payment of up to \$1.8 billion if the tie-up leads to the development of commercial discoveries.

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Adorable and affordable; 5 Burgers Aruba offers an island twist to the great American Burger

Expatriates residing on Aruba, Aaron and Rosie Walisever are living their dream: a home on paradise while welcoming all and sundry to their proud undertaking, 5 Burgers Aruba. Some may be quite well acquainted with a nationally known U.S franchise bearing the name "5", and patrons can expect the same great quality between the buns, but an expanded menu and Rosie and Aaron's fanatical dedication to giving their customers what they really want has resulted in a unique menu.



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comment "He stole my recipe!" Try them the English way-with vinegar, and you'll wonder how you ever ate fries without it. This same 5-star chef also swears by Gouda as the best topping for the ideal gourmet cheeseburger.

If you are a fan of crispy friend onion rings, as we are at THE MORNING NEWS, you cannot leave there without trying their secret recipe batter-dipped gourmet rings, made from fresh, not frozen onions. Unquestionably, the best we have had anywhere, and for those that like a little spice, the fried jalapeños are a real treat. Aaron and Rosie have expanded their menu to accommodate certain tastes and dietary needs; they offer a tasty grilled chicken sandwich as well.

5 Burgers Aruba is open for lunch & dinner – daily hours are Noon to 10-ish; delivery is available to both the high-rise and low-rise hotel and beach district for orders over \$50. Enjoy a great lunch without ever leaving the beach by calling 586-3904. However, we suggest you stop by and enjoy their authentic, heartfelt hospitality; it is not unusual for either owner or Manager Marc Anthony when things are not too busy, to sit and chat while sharing their knowledge of the island. Totally yummy and fun plus a great deal for a quality burger, they are definitely worth a visit.

5 Burger portions are ENORMOUS! Aaron suggests that even their small serving of fries, which are made from hand-cut fresh Idaho potatoes, is enough to be shared by two. He was very amused to watch a famous French chef demonstrating the best way to make fried potatoes on a gourmet cooking show and could only

'Captain America' breaks Harry Potter's box-office spell



LOS ANGELES (AFP) - Comic book hero Captain America outdueled Harry Potter in this weekend's box office battle, earning an estimated \$65.8 million, industry estimates showed Sunday.

Paramount's "Captain America: The First Avenger" easily topped the \$48 million that "Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows -- Part 2" is

anticipated to earn at the box office, industry tracker Exhibitor Relations reported.

The eighth and final episode about the boy wizard came in second place having taken in some \$274 million total since its smash release in early July.

"Deathly Hallows" records include one for single-day ticket sales (\$92.1 million) and midnight premiere sales (\$43.5 million), according to the box-office tracker.

In third place was the romantic comedy "Friends with Benefits" starring Justin Tim-

berlake and Mila Kunis, with \$18.5 million.

Fourth went to "Transformers: Dark of the Moon," with \$12 million, while the dark comedy "Horrible Bosses," came in fifth with \$11.7 million in estimated receipts.

In sixth place was "Zookeeper," which netted \$8.7 million, according to Exhibitor Relations.

Disney's "Cars 2" brought in \$5.7 million for seventh place, while another of its animated films, "Winnie the Pooh" was eighth with \$5.1 million.

"Bad Teacher" held ninth place this weekend with \$2.6 million, while Woody Allen's "Midnight in Paris" held onto the 10th spot for a second consecutive week, earning \$1.9 million.

Cirque du Soleil to end shows at Tokyo Disneyland



TOKYO (AFP) - Entertainment company Cirque du Soleil will withdraw from Tokyo Disney Resort at the end of the year, the theme park's operator said Monday, citing the impact of the March 11 quake-tsunami dis-

aster.

"It is with regret... that due to the effects of the Great East Japan Earthquake, the business environment for this theatre has greatly changed," amusement park operator Oriental Land said in a state-

ment. "Based on a review of the expected results and the long-term viability of the show, it was mutually agreed that the business environment would remain extremely difficult. Therefore it was decided to close the show."

Performances of the circus company's "ZED" show will end on December 31, it said, adding that it had enjoyed strong business success since Cirque du Soleil opened a permanent theatre in October 2008 in the Disney Resort.

Tokyo Disneyland and DisneySea closed for 20 days after the quake and tsunami hit eastern Japan, depressing the combined visitor figure for the 2010 fiscal year to March 31 by 1.8 percent on-year to 25.4 million people.

Gabon buys Ted Kennedy's home for \$6.5 mln

LIBREVILLE (AFP) - Gabon has bought the Washington mansion of the late senator Ted Kennedy, the real estate agent who handled the sale said.

The white mansion with six bedrooms, seven bathrooms, five fireplaces, an indoor swimming pool and a gym kitted out with equipment selected by Arnold Schwarzenegger -- who is in the process of divorcing

Kennedy's niece Maria Shriver -- changed owners for \$6.5 million, realtor Tim Hanan told AFP.

The Gabonese embassy would not immediately comment on the purchase, but The Washington Post said the oil-rich West African nation intends to transform the mansion into the official ambassador's residence."

Kennedy and his wife Vicky bought the spacious

property in the Kalorama district of Washington in 1998. His wife put it on the market last year, months after Kennedy died in August 2009 after losing a battle to brain cancer.

According to Hanan, Kennedy's widow has bought a smaller home near the mansion where she and her husband used to live, and is in the process of having it renovated.

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ONE cofounder Bono and Somali-born singer and poet K'naan met in Minneapolis with several Somali Minnesotans to discuss and draw attention to the growing famine in Somalia, where a food crisis has led to the deaths of tens of thousands of people and is putting nearly 12 million more lives at risk. There has been very little coverage of the crisis in the US media to date, despite the gravity of the situation. After the meeting, Bono and K'naan sang a duet of "Stand by Me," in what they described as a show of solidarity with Somalis.

Alomar, Blyleven, Gillick enter the Hall



L-R) Pat Gillick, Roberto Alomar and Bert Blyleven pose with their plaques after their induction at Clark Sports Center during the Baseball Hall of Fame induction ceremony on July 24, 2011 in Cooperstown, New York. In 17 major league seasons, Alomar tallied 2,724 hits, 210 home runs, 1,134 RBI, a .984 fielding percentage and a .300 batting average. Blyleven finished his 22 season career with 3,701 strikeouts (fifth on the all-time list) and 287 wins including 60 shutouts and 242 complete games. Gillick spent 27 years as the general manager with four major league clubs (Toronto 1978-94, Baltimore 1996-98, Seattle 2000-03 and Philadelphia 2006-08). His teams advanced to the postseason 11 times and won the World Series in 1992.

Fulham sign Palermo teen Kasami

ITALY (AFP)-Midfielder Pajtim Kasami has joined Fulham on a four-year deal from Palermo for an undisclosed fee, the Premier League club announced on Monday.

Macedonia-born Kasami played for Switzerland at this summer's Under-21 European Championship, where they lost to Spain in the final.

The 19-year-old broke

into the Italian outfit's first team last season and impressed.

"Pajtim is a young, talented midfielder who has potential, so we are very excited about signing him on a four-year contract," said Cottagers manager Martin Jol.

"He is a versatile midfield player who can adapt quite easily to more than one posi-

tion. He is a key player in the Swiss under-21 team.

"I am delighted to have been able to add two talented young players to my squad with the signing of Pajtim Kasami today, and Marcel Gecov last week, as I believe that they are going to be good additions to the squad both in the short and long term future."

Aloha Bridge Club Aruba (ABC) game results



RESULTS THURSDAY, JULY 21

The results 50% and higher are as follows:

A total of 11 pairs joined the bridge session of this morning at the Members Lounge of the Aruba Beach Club Resort.

The results 50% and higher are as follows:

1) Nelly Aal / Gerry Meenhorst 63.75 %
2) Willy Flanegin / Maritza van Romondt 61.88 %
3) Stascha Hornix / Henk

Berghuizen 54.38%

4) Marleen van Baaren / Jaenette Schoemaker 52.08 %
5) Corrie Veldman / Addy Eilers 51.56%
6) Els Lacle / George Manning 50.63%
7) Ghislaine Mendes / Carola Pinxter 50.00%

RESULTS FRIDAY, JULY 22

A total of 7 pairs joined evening the bridge session at the Frank Conway Room of the Casa del Mar Beach Resort.

The results 50% and higher are as follows:

1) Addy Eilers / Willem Jacobusse 57.50 %
2) Joke Henriquez / Willy Flanegin 57.29 %
3) Sheila Lampe/Edith Henriquez 52.50%.

Aloha Bridge Club Aruba meets twice a week: on Thursday mornings at the Members Lounge of the Aruba Beach Club, starting at 9.00 am and on Friday evenings at the Frank Conway Room of Casa del Mar starting at 7.30 pm. Signing up closes ten minutes before starting time. Fee for guest players: \$ 6.00 or Afl. 10.00 per person.

The club can also be of assistance in finding single players a bridge partner. Please call Addy Eilers : tel. 582-4953



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Anderson leads England rout of India



England's James Anderson (2nd L) celebrates taking the wicket of India's Suresh Raina for 78 runs with Matt Prior (L) during Day 5 of the first test match at Lord's Cricket Ground in London

LONDON (AFP) - James Anderson took five wickets as England thrashed India by 196 runs to win the first Test at Lord's here on Monday.

Victory gave England a 1-0 lead in a four-match series which if they win it by two Tests will see them replace India at the top of the ICC's Test Championship table.

India, needing what would have been a Test record fourth innings victory total of 458, were bowled out for 261.

Anderson took five for 65 in 28 overs during an innings where Suresh Raina top-scored with 78.

Kevin Pietersen was named man-of-the-match for his 202 not out in England's

first innings 474 for eight declared.

Before tea India had seen Sachin Tendulkar's latest bid to score his 100th international hundred, and first in a Lord's Test, end in failure when he was lbw to Anderson for 12.

They started the final session on 218 for five, with Raina 54 not out and India captain Mahendra Singh Dhoni 16 not out.

Importantly England had a new ball that was only an over old and fast bowler Chris Tremlett used it well to dismiss Dhoni for his interval score as he edged a rising delivery to wicketkeeper Matt Prior.

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Back to work for gridiron stars as new deal approved



DeMaurice Smith (L) executive director of the National Football League Players' Association and NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell (R) address the media

WASHINGTON (AFP) - Player representatives unanimously agreed to a new 10-year contract with club owners on Monday that ensured the National Football League season will start as planned after the NFL's longest shutdown.

"Football is back and that's great news," NFL commissioner Roger Goodell said. "It has been a long time coming."

Player representatives for all 32 National Football League teams unanimously voted Monday to approve a new contract with club owners, setting the stage for the end of the NFL's longest work stoppage, a lockout that began last March.

The first NFL shutdown since 1987 began when millionaire players and billionaire team owners could not agree on how to divide \$9.3 billion in annual revenues but was expected to end quickly after legal details were finalized.

Owners and players agreed on final terms in the early hours of Monday morning and the NFL Players Association (NFLPA) executive committee presented details to players in a conference call ahead of the vote.

"I know it has been a very

long process since the day we stood here that night in March, but our guys stood together when nobody thought we would and football is back because of it," NFLPA executive director DeMaurice Smith said.

"I believe it's important that we talk about the future of football as a partnership."

Goodell struck a unifying tone as well after players and owners exchanged hugs over a deal that brings owners 53 percent of revenues after a prior 50-50 split but gives players better benefits and faster free agency for some.

"Having a 10-year agreement is extra great for our game, especially our fans," Goodell said. "I think this agreement is going to make the game better. I'm grateful for all the work both parties did."

The bottom line for fans is that barring an unexpected complication, the NFL season will begin as planned on September 8 with the New Orleans Saints visiting the reigning Super Bowl champion Green Bay Packers.

Players and owners clearly knew there were some fences to mend with club supporters for the uncertainty of the past few months about whether or not there would even be a

season this year.

"I would like to apologize to the fans for the last five, six months when we have been talking about the business of football," New England Patriots owner Robert Kraft said.

"This is an agreement that will allow our sport to flourish. Every team will be competitive and we've improved player safety. What kept me coming was seeing the player representatives. They looked out for their long-term interest."

Owners approved the deal last week and the full membership of players must yet vote upon the plan, but the approval by team representatives enables training camps to open later this week.

"We want to thank the fans who stuck with us," NFLPA president Kevin Mawae said.

Today, players are expected to be able to return to NFL club facilities and teams are expected to begin signing free agents and rookies.

Training camps will open for 10 clubs at a time on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday and the last two on Saturday, all designed so each team has two weeks to train before its first pre-season game.

Teams will have a short time span to make salary cap cuts, sign free agents and rookies and make trades before pre-season workouts begin.

There was only one lost game -- the annual pre-season opener, the Hall of Fame game that had been set for August 7.

Securing a deal before the end of the month means that a planned game in London will take place as scheduled.

MLB Standings

American League

	East	W	L	Pct	GB
BOSTON	62	37	.626	--	
NY YANKEES	59	40	.596	3.0	
TAMPA	53	47	.530	9.5	
TORONTO	51	51	.500	12.5	
BALTIMORE	40	58	.408	21.5	

Central

DETROIT	54	47	.535	--
CLEVELAND	51	48	.515	2.0
CHICAGO	49	51	.490	4.5
MINNESOTA	47	54	.465	7.0
KANSAS	42	59	.416	12.0

West

TEXAS	58	44	.569	--
LA ANGELES	55	47	.539	3.0
OAKLAND	44	57	.436	13.5
SEATTLE	43	58	.426	14.5

National League

	East	W	L	Pct	GB
PHILADELPHIA	64	36	.640	--	
ATLANTA	59	43	.578	6.0	
NY METS	50	51	.495	14.5	
WASHINGTON	49	52	.485	15.5	
FLORIDA	49	53	.480	16.0	

Central

PITTSBURG	52	47	.525	--
ST. LOUIS	53	48	.525	--
MILWAUKEE	54	49	.524	--
CINCINNATI	50	51	.495	3.0
CHICAGO	42	60	.412	11.5
HOUSTON	33	68	.327	20.0

West

SAN FRANCISCO	59	43	.578	--
ARIZONA	55	47	.539	4.0
COLORADO	48	54	.471	11.0
LA DODGERS	45	56	.446	13.5
SAN DIEGO	44	58	.431	15.0

One year and counting for London Olympics

LONDON (AFP) -- The 12-month countdown to the greatest sporting show on earth gets under way here Wednesday as London reaches the one year to go mark for the 2012 summer Olympics.

International Olympic Committee chief Jacques Rogge will join British officials at a ceremony in Trafalgar Square as preparations for London 2012 enter the home straight.

Rogge will use the occasion to issue an invitation to the 10,500 athletes expected to descend on London for next year's extravaganza, which takes place from July 27 to August 12.

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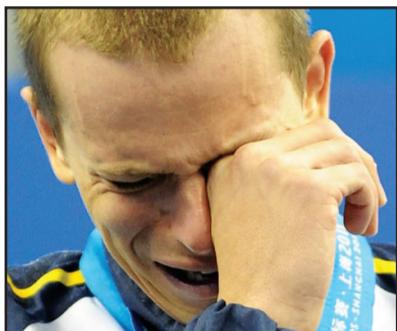
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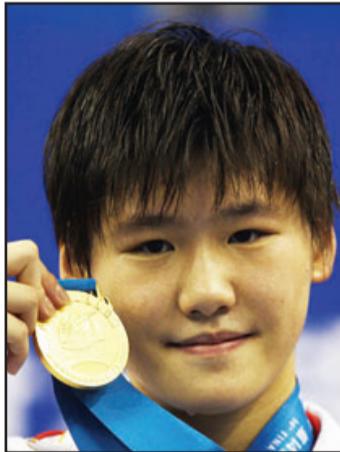
Emotional wins for Cielo, Dale Oen



Gold medalist Brazil's Cesar Cielo Filho cries on the podium



Gold medalist Alexander Dale Oen of Norway celebrates on the podium



Gold medalist China's Ye Shiwen

SHANGHAI (AFP) - Brazilian sprint star Cesar Cielo defied a storm of criticism to win an emotional world championships gold Monday, as a 15-year-old prodigy claimed a thrilling win for hosts China.

Cesar, controversially

cleared to swim despite failing a drugs test, sobbed uncontrollably on the victory podium after his 50m butterfly victory, and was comforted by fellow medallists Matthew Targett and Geoff Huegill of Australia.

"I feel like I've been blessed by God.... It's a page turned already. Now I'm just going to look to the future," said Cielo, whose 23.10sec, was just 0.18 ahead of second-placed Targett.

"This gold medal has a different feel from the other ones. This one was the hardest of my life."

Cielo, 24, has been in the firing line with superstar Michael Phelps and US teammate Jason Lezak both voicing unhappiness after the Brazilian last week escaped a drugs ban.

The Olympic 50m freestyle champion, who won both the 50m and 100m world titles at Rome 2009, was let off with a warning for testing positive for a banned diuretic, which can be used to mask performance-enhancing drugs.

Cielo denies wrongdoing and blames a contaminated caffeine supplement for the result at Brazil's national championships in May. Three team-mates also tested positive for furosemide.

"It was a tough time. Time to test not only my talent in swimming but how much I could take," Cielo said.

In other action, Asian Games champion Ye Shiwen, 15, recorded host China's first swimming gold in a pulsating 200m individual medley that was met with deafening roars at Shanghai's Sea Crown stadium.

Ye put in a lightning final lap to pip Australia's Alicia Coutts, who won her second silver of the night, by one-tenth of a second in 2:08.90, with defending champion Ar-

iana Kukors of the United States in third.

Elsewhere Olympic silver-medallist Alexander Dale Oen of Norway won the men's 100m breaststroke ahead of Italy's Fabio Scozzoli with South African Cameron van

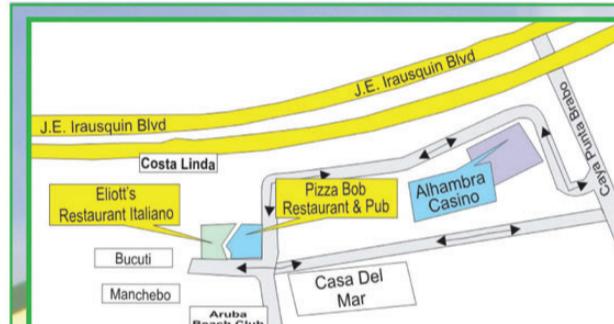
der Burgh third.

Japan's four-time Olympic breaststroke champion, Kosuke Kitajima, was just outside the medals in fourth.

Earlier, American Dana Vollmer, 23, won her first individual title at a world

championships in the 100m butterfly ahead of Coutts and China's Lu Ying.

America's 14-time Olympic champion Phelps qualified for Tuesday's 200m freestyle final alongside team-mate Ryan Lochte.



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